

Remarks

The following remarks are responsive to the November 3, 2005, Final Office Action.

In the Office Action the Examiner objected to claims 19, 21, and 24 due to various informalities. Claims 15, 16, 25, and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. Claims 27 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Romo (2003/0200852). Claims 14, 17, 18, 20 and 23 were indicated as being allowed.

Claims 19, 21, and 24, as amended, incorporate the language suggested by the Examiner as being acceptable to correct any informalities associated with the claims. Therefore, the Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw his objection to those claims and allow them to issue.

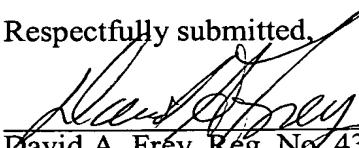
Regarding claims 15, 16, 25, and 26, Applicants believe that the based on the drawings and, in particular Figure 14, one of ordinary skill would realize that pressure had to be applied in a vertical direction (i.e., up or down depending on the orientation of the lever) in order for spring 518 to compress, thereby releasing the latch protrusions 524 from the notches 512. Nevertheless, in order to overcome the Examiner's rejection of claims 15, 16, 25, and 26, paragraph [0064] of the specification has been amended to clarify the direction pressure is applied to the lever 510 in order to allow the latch 522 to press against the spring 518. No new matter is added. In view of this clarification, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw his rejection of claims 15, 16, 25, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph and allow the claims to issue.

Claims 27 and 29 have been canceled.

In re Appln. of Romo, et. al.
Application No. 10/702,332
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The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 5, 2006

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION OF NOVEMBER 3, 2005 (along with any documents referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date: January 5, 2006



Irina Mikitiouk

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